

Shrewsbury Public Schools Transportation Update September 23, 2015

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Topics

- Services & Contracted Providers
- Vehicles and Routes
- Contract and Rates
- Driver Qualifications
- Fee Based Program
- Ridership
- State Reimbursements
- FY16 Budget
- Future Considerations

Services & Contracted Providers

Service	Vendor	Notes
Regular day [aka Home to School]	AA Transportation	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▶ Shrewsbury Public Schools ▶ Assabet Valley Reg. Technical H.S. ▶ St. Mary, St. John's, Al-Hamra, Montessori
Out of District-Special Education	Assabet Valley Collaborative	▶ Private school placements throughout the state.
Athletic Competitions	AA Transportation	▶ High school and limited middle school events
Homeless Students	Varied	▶ Includes busing students sheltering in other towns back to SPS and students sheltering in Shrewsbury to other public school systems
Summer School	AA Transportation	For special education students with transportation in their IEP
Field Trips ["yellow bus"]	AA Transportation	Coach buses contracted separately for long trips or special events

Vehicles and Routes [“Regular Day Busing”]

- Vehicles
 - 41 , 77 seat buses
 - 38 for public & private schools
 - 3 for Assabet Valley Reg. Tech. H.S.
 - 6, 34 seat half-buses 3 with wheel chair lift
 - All equipped with two video cameras
 - All equipped with GPS devices with live monitoring of location, speed, stops
 - All equipped with two-way radios
 - All drivers also have cell-phone capacity in event of emergency
 - All model year 2011 or newer
- 249 Total Routes
 - Morning= 119
 - Mid-day= 14
 - Afternoon= 116

Contract and Rates

- Service is bid per MGL Chapter 30B
- Current five-year contract with AA Transportation effective FY14-FY18
- Rate is \$328.17 per bus per day which equates to \$59,071 per bus per school year. Contract allows for annual increase tied to the Consumer Price Index
- Most buses operate on 3-tier system with a high school, middle school, and elementary school route each morning and afternoon. Some buses also have a mid-day commitment for half-day kindergarten or preschool.

Driver Qualifications

- Licensing done by the state
 - Minimum of 3 years with driver's license
 - Pass CORI and SORI background checks
 - Pass Dept. of Transportation physical/medical exam
 - Clean driving record
 - Pass RMV written exams
 - Pass a Dept. of Public Utilities road test in a bus
 - Complete 60 hours of pre-service training
 - 32 hours behind the wheel
 - 28 classroom hours
 - Must be renewed each year

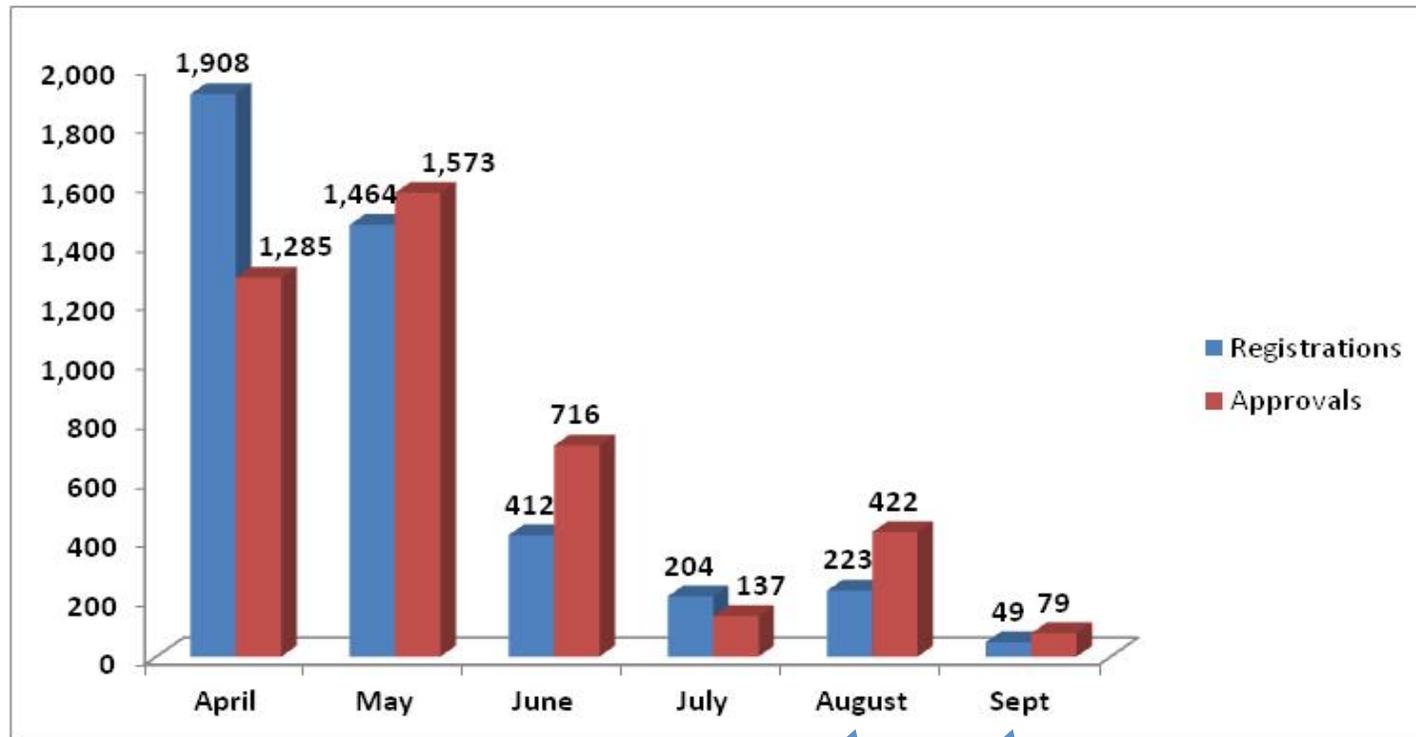
Fee Based Program

- Requires two-step process
 - Register via PowerSchool
 - Pay by check/cash only to S.P.S.
- Registration/approval process occurs in *PowerSchool* and transmitted each night to *VersaTrans* routing software used by vendor and district for routing
- Large administrative effort with many tasks to register and record approval of each student

Fee Based Program:

S.P.S. Registrations and Approvals by Month

As of 9/4/2015. We continue to add more students each day.



Over 500 riders approved in weeks leading up to school opening and first weeks of school is difficult to manage from logistics and customer service perspectives.

Fee Based Program

- Operating an efficient operation with fixed routes and stops
- Increased expectations for service when some parents pay
- These two things sometimes conflict

Average Cost v. Fee

- 4,499 students currently registered in district, private schools, and Assabet
- Total budget of \$3,054,657
- Average cost=\$679/student
- Fee=\$250/student

Ridership

School District	Riders
Shrewsbury Public Schools	4,212
Assabet Valley Regional Tech. H.S.	109
St. John's High School	65
St. Mary School	61
Al Hamra Academy	33
Montessori School	19
Out of District Students	48
Total Daily Riders	4,547

State Reimbursements

Type	FY14	FY15	FY16 estimated
Out of District-Vocational	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ \$89,646 ■ 86.93% 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■\$0 ■0% 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■\$104,625 ■59%
Homeless	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■\$28,341 ■50.83% 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■\$7,456 ■34.4% 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■\$16,500 ■37%

Notes:

1. These are general fund receipts and not at disposal or available for direct use by School Dept.
2. Variability from year to year makes it difficult to budget for this revenue.
3. Timing of state budget approval in July does not allow for precise budgeting at municipal level in May.

FY16 Budget

Transportation Service	FY16 All Budgets	Notes
Regular Day	\$ 2,244,683	\$1.6M Oper. Budget and \$585K funded via fee revenue
Special Education: Out of District	\$ 1,026,638	Funded via special education grant
Special Education: In-District	\$ 354,424	Funded via special education grant
Bus Monitors	\$ 277,641	Operating Budget
Vocational	\$ 177,909	Operating Budget
Athletics	\$ 86,700	Operating Budget
Special Education: Summer	\$ 65,724	Operating Budget
Homeless	\$ 45,000	Operating Budget
High School Clubs/Events [Speec & Debate]	\$ 10,000	Operating Budget
Music Performances/Events	\$ 4,570	Operating Budget
Total All Services- All Funds	\$ 4,293,289	

Future Considerations

- Will be looking at on-line registration and payment solution compatible with PowerSchool
 - Easier for parents
 - Reduce manual processing of payments
 - May require re-visit of some “rules” to simplify